

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for obtaining a video signal from a position proximate an eye level of a person viewing a display, the apparatus comprising:

a flexible coupling comprising a loop of ~~flexible~~ material having a length sufficient to encircle the display and having a camera portion including a non-stretchable transparent material and a fixation portion including a stretchable opaque material extending along the majority of the loop and removably secured to the display to position the camera portion alongside a screen portion of the display;

a camera; and

a camera attachment to attach the camera to the camera portion such that the camera is positioned between the screen portion and the person.

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the loop exerts inward pressure against the display such that the fixation portion frictionally engages the display.

4. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the stretchable opaque material loop is elastic, the stretchable opaque material loop having an unstretched configuration in which the loop length is insufficient to encircle the

display, and a stretched configuration in which the loop length is sufficient to encircle the display.

5. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 3, further comprising an adjustment mechanism that selectively tightens the loop around the display.

6. (canceled)

7. (canceled)

8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) An apparatus for obtaining a video signal from a position proximate an eye level of a person viewing a display, the apparatus comprising:

a flexible loop having a length sufficient to encircle the display, the flexible loop having a camera portion including a non-stretchable transparent material and a fixation portion including a stretchable opaque material extending along the majority of the loop and that exerts pressure against the display to position the camera portion alongside a screen portion of the display;

a camera; and

a camera attachment that attaches the camera to the camera portion such that the camera is positioned between the screen portion and the person.

10. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the flexible loop comprises an elastic band sized to grip the display such that the fixation portion abuts a back side of the display.

11. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the flexible loop comprises:
a strap; and
an adjustment mechanism that engages the strap to tighten the strap around the display.

12. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein at least a portion of the flexible loop is translucent.

13. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the camera attachment permits rapid, manual removal of the camera from the camera portion.

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the camera attachment comprises a hook and loop fastening system with a first portion affixed to a back side of the camera and a second portion affixed to the camera portion.

15. (original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the camera attachment comprises a clip disposed on a back side of the camera to selectively engage the camera portion.

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16. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the camera attachment comprises an adhesive disposed between a back side of the camera and the camera portion to permanently affix the camera to the camera portion.

17. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising a display attachment that attaches the fixation portion to the display.

18. (original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the display attachment comprises a hook and loop fastening system with a first portion attached to the display and a second portion attached to the fixation portion.

19. (currently amended) An apparatus for obtaining a video signal from a position proximate an eye level of a person viewing a display, the apparatus comprising:

a base resting on the display over a screen portion of the display;

a flexible line comprising a flexible material and suspended from the base, the flexible line having a camera portion disposed alongside the screen portion and fixation portion attached to the base; and

a camera attached to the camera portion such that the camera is suspended from the flexible line and positioned between the screen portion and the person,

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wherein the base includes a retractor coupled to the fixation portion of the flexible line to automatically move the camera from a retracted position to an eye level position upon commencement of videoconferencing.

20. (original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the base rests on a top side of the display in an unsecured manner.

21. (original) The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising a display attachment that attaches the base to a top side of the display.

22. (original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the display attachment comprises a hook and loop fastening system with a first portion affixed to the top side and a second portion affixed to the base.

23. (original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the display attachment comprises a suction cup disposed on an underside of the base to selectively engage the top side.

24. (canceled)

25. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 24 19, wherein the retractor comprises a pulley around which the fixation portion is disposed, wherein the pulley is rotatable to draw the camera into the retracted position.

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26. (currently amended) A method for obtaining a video signal from a position proximate an eye level of a person viewing a display, the method comprising:

providing a flexible coupling having a flexible loop having a length sufficient to encircle the display, a camera portion including a non-stretchable transparent material, and a fixation portion including a stretchable opaque material extending along the majority of the loop;

providing a camera;

attaching the camera to the camera portion with a camera attachment; and

securing the fixation portion to the display such that the camera portion is suspended alongside a screen portion of the display, between the screen portion and the person.

27. (canceled)

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein securing the fixation portion to the display comprises disposing the flexible loop to exert inward pressure against the display such that the fixation portion frictionally engages the display.

29. (canceled)

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30. (original) The method of claim 28, further comprising:

providing an adjustment mechanism that selectively tightens the flexible loop around the display.

31. canceled

32. canceled

33. (canceled)

34. (currently amended) An apparatus for obtaining a video signal from a position proximate an eye level of a person viewing a display, the apparatus comprising:

a flexible coupling means comprising a flexible material and having a camera portion including a non-stretchable transparent material and a fixation portion including a stretchable opaque material extending along the majority of the flexible coupling means and removably secured to the display to position the camera portion alongside a screen portion of the display;

a camera; and

an attachment means to attach the camera to the camera portion such that the camera is positioned between the screen portion and the person.

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35. (currently amended) A method for obtaining a video signal from a position proximate an eye level of a person viewing a display, the apparatus comprising:

providing a flexible coupling comprising a flexible line having a flexible material, a camera portion, and a fixation portion;

providing a camera;

attaching the camera to the camera portion with a camera attachment; and

securing the fixation portion to the display by disposing the fixation portion proximate a top side of the display such that the flexible line hangs downward along the screen portion such that the camera portion is suspended alongside a screen portion of the display, between the screen portion and the person;

providing a base having a retractor;

disposing the base to rest on the top side with the retractor coupled to the fixation portion; and

the retractor automatically moving the camera from a retracted position to an eye level position upon commencement of videoconferencing.

36. (canceled)

37. (canceled)

38. (new) An apparatus for obtaining a video signal from a position proximate an eye level of a person viewing a display, the apparatus comprising:

a loop having a length sufficient to encircle the display and including,

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a camera portion,
a fixation portion coupled to the camera portion, and
a display attachment coupled to the fixation portion to removably
secure the loop to the display to position the camera portion alongside
a screen portion of the display;
a camera; and
a camera attachment to attach the camera to the camera portion such that the
camera is positioned between the screen portion and the person.